Payment of Pending Bills by NBCC

2599. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Building Construction Corporation is not making payment to the Contractor/Builder in time;

(b) if so, how many cases are pending for payment, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the National Building Construction Corporation will arrange to make the payment of pending bills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) NBCC is at present executing about 145 projects all over the country and abroad. Under the existing financial delegation of powers in vogue in the Corporation, these projects are under the charge of the Unit-In-Charge and controlled by the Zonal Offices located at different places in the country. The works are awarded to Contractors by the Units/Zones within their financial powers without reference to the Head Office. The payments against the work done by the Contractors is received from the client Departments normally within a period of two months and immediately on receipt of the same, the payments to the Contractors are released by the respective Units. Since in every Project there may be normally 10 to 20 Contractors/Suppliers depending upon the size of the Project, it is not possible to monitor each payment being made to these Agencies at Head-Office level. As and when a reference is received from any Contractor regading delay in payment, the same is enquired into and instructions are issued to the respective Units and Zones to expedite and clear the payment. Sometimes, in case the payments from a particular client get delayed, the Zonal Officers also divert and arrange funds from other sources so as to mitigate the hardship of the Contractors. Payment to Contractors on ongoing Projects is a continuous process. Some time-lag will always be there between the execution of the work by the Contractors and release of payments to them. This time-lag depends upon the receipt of payments from the client Specific records of such cases are not maintained at Corporate level.

Illegal Possession of DDA Land

2600. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH:
SHRI AAS MOHAMMAD:
Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints of illegal possession of DDA land have been received during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the areas to which these complaints belong; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) Complaints about encroachment of Delhi Development Authority land/illegal construction thereon have been received from public representatives, organisations and individuals from time to time. As encroachment./illegal construction is a continuing problem and its removal is also a continuous process, no separate record in respect thereof has been maintained by DDA. However, details of land reclaimed by removal of encroachment by DDA during the years 1991-92 to 1993-94 are as under:—

Year	Land Reclaimed
1991-92	261 acres
1992-93	284 acres
1993-94	859 acres

Legislation to Impose Tax on Urban Land

2601. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact a legislation with a view to impose tax on Urban vacant land in the States and Union Territories; and

(b) what are the objects and reasons for this legislation and how much revenue is likely to be collected therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) No such

decision has been taken by the Central Government.

Repair of DDA Flats in Zafrabad

2602. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not carried out any repairs of the DDA flats in Zafrabad even after 8 years of the construction of these flats whereas DDA should have carried out repairs within five years as per rules;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the resident of the upper storeys of these flats have not been getting regular water supply after the handing over of the flats by DDA to the Corporation; and

(d) whether Government have received any representation from the residents' Association in this regard and if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) DDA has reported that it is not correct that it has not done any repairs in Zafrabad flats for the last 8 years. The possession of the flat is given to the allottee after attending to all the defects in the flat. DDA undertakes rectification of defects in flats upto 6 months after handing over possession to allottees to make it functional.

(c) Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking has reported that four storeyed flats of Zafrabad handed over to MCD in April, 1993 having 2 Pockets viz. Pockets A&B. There has been low water pressure problem when water supply to both the pockets was given simultaneously. To sort out the problem, water supply to each of the pocket has been staggered. This has given relief to the residents.

(d) Yes, Sir. During the Summer Season some complaints of low water pressure were received from Pocket "B' only. In order to augment the water supply of these flats, Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking has framed a proposal for replacing the existing 100 mm diameter P.V.C. Water Main with 150 mm diameter C.I. Pipe Line.

Mass Rapid Transport System for Delhi

2603. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SYED SIBTEY RAZI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the multi-model mass rapid transport system for the Capital city of Delhi has been given the nod by the Government; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the scheme, the cost involved and by when it is envisaged to reach take off stage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved "in principle' the introduction of a multi modal Mass Rapid Transport System in Delhi.

(b) The salient features of the Scheme are as under:

The proposed MRTS for Delhi is expected to cover a total distance of 184.5 Kms, including 27 Kms of Underground Railway, 140 Kms of Surface/elevated Rail and 17.5 Kms of Dedicated Busway. The project is proposed to be implemented in two phases. The first phase will cover a distance of 67.5 Kms, which includes 19 Kms as underground rail, 31 Kms as Surface/elevated rail and 17.5 Kms as dedicated busway.

The total approximate cost of the project at 1992-93 prices is Rs. 7469 crores and for the 1st phase, the cost is about Rs. 3401 crores.

The Government has approved the setting up of a Company to implement the project.

Before commencement of construction of the project, various preliminary action are to be taken, *e.g.* preparation of a Detailed Project Report, land acquisition, tying up resources for the project etc. etc. Therefore, it is not possible at this stage to indicate a firm date for the commencement of the construction of this project.